

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (original) A method of making an oxidation protective coating for a carbon/carbon composite, the method comprising:

(a) spraying a mixture of a vehicle liquid and Si powder on the carbon/carbon composite and drying the mixture to remove the vehicle liquid coating Si on the carbon/carbon composite; and

(b) heat-treating to allow the carbon/carbon composite to be impregnated with the Si;

thereby forming an SiC layer and an Si layer; and

(c) oxidizing the Si layer to form an SiO₂ film.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The method of claim [[3]] 1, wherein the vehicle liquid is a volatile alcohol.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the heat-treating in (b) is performed at a temperature of about 1400 °C to about 1600 °C under a pressure of about 10 mTorr to about 1000 mTorr.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the oxidizing of the Si layer is performed at a temperature of about 400 °C to about 800 °C.

7. (withdrawn) A coated carbon/carbon composite made according to the method of claim 1.

8. (withdrawn) A coated carbon/carbon composite made according to the method of claim 2.